FCC Action

Please follow these

instructions to send your comments to the FCC:

FCC Communications Commission Electronic Comment

1.) Click here to launch the Form

field, fill in "02-277"

in the "Mail Correspondence To" section.

"Name of Applicant/Petitioner" field.

Name" and "Attorney Name" fields.

field, fill in your e-mail address.

address in the "Mailing Address for Correspondence" field.

"State," and "Zip"

Parte/Late Field" check box.

pull-down menu, select the option "COMMENT."

Comment Files to FCC (Attachments) section."

2.) In the "Proceeding"

3.) Select the "Name" button

4.) Fill in your name in the

5.) Ignore the "Law Firm

6.) In the "E-mail-id"

7.) Fill in your mailing field.

8.) Fill in your "City,"

9.) Ignore the "Ex-

10.) In the "Document Type"

11.) IGNORE the "Send

Comment to FCC (typed-in)" section, please fill in your comment. If you wish, you may use the following text provided by AIVF, and if you have personal experiences in which you feel that your freedom to access adequate information, or submit content has been compromised because of media concentration, you should include those comments as well.

To the Honorable

Commissioners of the FCC,

 $$\operatorname{I}$ am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of

the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. I am voicing my support to retain all the

FCC rules in question. These rules set limits on concentration of the broadcast industry

and serve the public interest by preserving diversity of ownership in the broadcast

marketplace. These rules are; The Television-Radio Cross-Ownership Rule, The

Broadcast-Newspaper Cross
Ownership Ban, The National Television Ownership Rule,

The Duopoly Rule for Radio,
The Local Television Ownership Rule, and The Dual

Network Rule.

The great privilege to carry on informed debate and discussion of current events, both locally and globally, is part of the founding philosophy of this country. If the avenues for sharing information are restricted to very few, then I fear that the quality of the information presented will decay. What is the value of varied information sources when they are controlled by a single voice?

As a creator of independent media, I know first hand the importance of freedom of expression. The ability to say things that are potentially challenging to audiences at large, or possibly critical of society's sacred cows and special interests, lies at the heart of the independent media maker's business. Already it is difficult to work outside the established system. If the channels to a potential audience - be they cable programming channels, local television stations, or even newspapers that promote and review independent works fall into the hands of even fewer corporate owners, sharing my work or the work of any independent artist will become much harder.

In such an environment, the commercial interest inevitably compromises the public interest. The FCC has rules limiting ownership to preserve the ecology of a healthy marketplace of ideas. If the FCC undermines this ecology by removing the rules, it undermines the future health of the marketplace of information.

Congress and the Supreme
Court have long recognized that a functioning democracy
depends on a media open to
independent and unconventional news and a varied
entertainment media. Media
makers working outside the corporate environment

continually provide content that is so defined. This unconventionality and variety that stimulates the American people both causes us to constantly question the status quo, and facilitates the ability of Americans to speak with one another. If we exist in an environment in which our news outlets have merged together, both print and broadcast, our ability to open informed discussion is restricted.

I urge you to rule in the public interest on this matter. The public interest will be served by preserving the FCC's Broadcast Media ownership rules.

Thank you, Brita Brundage

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